



APPRECIATION REMARKS BY THE REGISTRAR/CHIEF EXECUTIVE OF THE CHARTERED INSTITUTE OF BANKERS OF NIGERIA, MR 'SEYE AWOJOBI, FCIB, ON THE OCCASION OF THE 2019 ANNUAL LECTURE WITH THE THEME: INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT AND GROWTH IN NIGERIA: PROSPECTS AND CHALLENGES, JUNE 20, 2019.

Ladies and gentlemen, as this year's edition of the CIBN Annual Lecture comes to a close, I feel privileged and honored to be entrusted with the important task of giving the appreciation remark at a gathering of such eminent people in the industry. It was Alan Cohen, an inspirational writer who once said that "appreciation is the highest form of prayer, for it acknowledges the presence of good wherever you shine the light of your thankful thoughts".

May I therefore start by appreciating God almighty, the Alpha and the Omega, for beginning and ending with us in ensuring the success of this event.

A special thank you goes to our guest lecturer, Professor Melvin Ayogu, ACIB, Adjunct Professor, University of Cape Town and a Fellow of Mapungubwe Institute of Strategic Reflection, South Africa for his efforts towards preparing and presenting a top notch paper for today's lecture. You have indeed added value to the participants at this lecture.

A big thank you goes to the able Chairman of today's occasion, Mr. Andrew Alli, Group Managing Director of South Bridge Group. Mr. Chairman Sir, the moderation of this event couldn't have been more engaging and interactive. I thank you for honoring our invitation.

Great appreciation goes to all our seasoned panelists Mrs Hajia Aisha Dahir-Umar, Director General of National Pension Commission; Mr. Bola Onadele, Chief Executive Officer of FMDQ OTC Securities Exchange; Dr. Wle Babalakin, SAN, Chairman of Bi-Courtney Group; and Engr. Mansur Ahmed, Executive Director, Dangote Group. I am sure everyone here including my humble self has benefitted from your array of discussions and insights shared.

I would also like to take this opportunity to place on record our hearty thanks to members of the Research, Strategy and Advocacy committee ably led by Mr Dele Alabi, FCIB for their contributions towards the success of this event and for seeing the need to push forward such topical theme that was discussed on today. Your assistance has gone a long way. To all media houses here, I say a big thank you for your coverage of this event and to support service providers, I say thank you as well.

To the Governing Council and Office Holders, Dr. Uche M. Olowu, Ph.D, FCIB, President and Chairman of Council of CIBN; Mr Bayo Olugbemi, FCIB, 1st Vice President, CIBN; Dr Ken Opara, FCIB, 2nd Vice President, CIBN; and Professor Pius Olarenwaju, Ph.D, FCIB, National Treasurer, CIBN, we thank you for the leadership you provided to ensure the success of the event.



Marcel Proust, a French novelist once said and I quote “Let us be grateful to the people who make us happy, as they are the charming gardeners who make our soul blossom”. On this note, I would like to extend my sincere appreciation to the management and staff of this great institute who have successfully done their job to ensure the success of this event. Your time and commitment towards this event cannot be overlooked. I say a big thank you.

Finally, to our participants who have taken time out of their busy schedules to attend this programme, we appreciate you for being here and I believe we are all leaving here better informed and more enlightened with one or two things to take home. One of my key takeaways from this lecture is the growing importance of Infrastructure in a nation’s development. Public and private individuals need to come together to create an enabling environment and investment culture to develop Nigeria’s array of infrastructure.

Our eminent faculty have enlightened us on the prospects and challenges of infrastructure to the growth and development of Nigeria’s economy. I believe with the practicable solutions proffered and with proper implementation, there would be an improvement in the contribution of Nigeria’s infrastructure stock to the nations GDP.

Ladies and gentlemen, once again, on behalf of the President and Chairman of Council, all Council Members, Office Holders, Management and Staff of this revered institute, I say a big and hearty thank you. It has been a great pleasure.

Thank you very much and God bless you.

See you next year.

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